

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A device for use in controlling the quality of a perishable object, while progressing on its supply line, by monitoring the condition of a time-temperature indicator (TTI) which has photochromic properties associated with the object, the device comprising a sensing assembly for detecting a light response in form of L* values or a light response in form of optical density (OD) of the TTI to a predetermined stimulus and generating measured data representative thereof, said measured data being indicative of the condition of the TTI, thereby enabling the determination of the remaining shelf life of the TTI and thereby any perishable good to which it is attached and calibrated.

2-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The device of Claim 3, wherein said light response is in the form of certain color saturation.

6. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 3, wherein said light response includes reflections of the incident light.

7. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 3, wherein said light response includes light transmitted through the TTI.

8. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 3, wherein said incident light is in a visible spectral range.

9. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 3, wherein said sensing assembly comprises a light source generating said predetermined incident light, and a light detector.

10. (Original) The device of Claim 9, wherein said light source is a flash lamp.

11. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 3, being a barcode reader.

12. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 1, comprising a communication utility for translating the measured data into an output signal in the form of at least one of electrical, optical, RF and acoustic signal, to be processed to determine the condition of the TTI, thereby enabling controlling the remaining shelf life of the TTI.

13. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 1, comprising a control unit connectable to said sensing assembly and preprogrammed to be responsive to the measured data for translating said data into a value corresponding to the measured condition of the TTI, said measured condition of the TTI being indicative of the remaining shelf life of the TTI and consequently of the object said TTI is associated with.

14. (Previously presented) The device of Claim 12 which is an optical probe for determining the condition of a time-temperature indicator (TTI), the probe comprising: an optical sensing assembly for detecting a light response of the TTI to predetermined incident light and generating measured data representative thereof; and a communication utility for translating said data into an output signal in the form of at least one of electrical, optical, RF and acoustic signal, to be processed to determine the condition of the TTI, thereby enabling controlling remaining shelf life of the TTI.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) A label, tag or packaging material, comprising a machine readable pattern having at least one feature of the pattern configured as a time-temperature indicator (TTI), said

pattern being responsive to a predetermined stimulus in a time-temperature variable manner in accordance with time-temperature variations of the TTI.

17. (Original) The label, tag or packaging material of Claim 16, wherein readable data from said machine readable pattern varies with time and temperature in accordance with time and temperature variation of the TTI condition, said readable data being thereby indicative of remaining shelf life of the TTI.

18. (Original) An object carrying a machine readable pattern that includes at least one feature of the pattern configured as a time-temperature indicator (TTI), said pattern being responsive to a predetermined stimulus in a time-temperature variable manner in accordance with time-temperature variations of the TTI.

19. (Original) The object of Claim 18, wherein readable data from said machine readable pattern varies with time and temperature in accordance with time and temperature variation of the TTI condition, said readable data being thereby indicative of remaining shelf life of the TTI.

20-21. (Cancelled)